

Department of State

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

817

PAGE 01 STATE 288469
ORIGIN NEA-07

7067

STATE 288469

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 INR-10 EUR-12 SS-15 AF-10 CIAE-00
EB-08 EA-12 DOD-00 H-01 MMO-01 IO-15 NSCE-00
ARA-16 NSAE-00 HA-06 L-03 TRSE-00 PM-03 AIT-02
PA-02 DOTE-03 OMB-01 SSH-05 INRE-00 GAL-01 SIG-03
ACDA-12 SSN-02 ICAE-00 SP-02 SPRS-02 /157 R

DRAFTED BY TEXT FROM THE WHITE HOUSE

APPROVED BY NEA: JWM/NAH

NEA/ARP:RPelletreau

S/P: JROCHE

F. Schmefer 7/2/85
371131 2904102 /70

O 290257Z OCT 81 ZEX,

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 288469

E.O. 12065: N/A

TA;S: PEPR, SA, US

SUBJECT: AWACS VICTORY

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ON AWACS VICTORY.

BEGIN: I WANT TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE FOR THEIR APPROVAL OF THE SALE OF THE AWACS DEFENSE SYSTEM TO SAUDI ARABIA.

TODAY I THINK WE'VE SEEN THE UPPER CHAMBER AT ITS BEST. THE UNITED STATES SENATE HAS ACTED WITH STATESMANSHIP, WITH FORESIGHT, AND WITH COURAGE.

I CAN'T FULLY EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TO SENATOR BAKER AND THE OTHER SENATE LEADERS, DEMOCRATS AS WELL AS REPUBLICANS, WHO PLAYED SUCH A CRUCIAL ROLE IN THIS DECISION.

TODAY'S ACTION BY THE SENATE WILL NOT ONLY STRENGTHEN SAUDI-AMERICAN RELATIONS BUT WILL ALSO PROTECT OUR ECONOMIC LIFELINE TO THE MIDDLE EAST, WIN FAVOR AMONG MODERATE ARAB NATIONS AND -- MOST IMPORTANT--CONTINUE THE DIFFICULT BUT STEADY PROGRESS TOWARDS PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

WE'VE ACTED IN CONCERT TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE UNITED STATES IS INDEED A RELIABLE SECURITY PARTNER. OUR FRIENDS SHOULD REALIZE THAT STEADFASTNESS TO PURPOSE IS A HALLMARK OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY, WHILE THOSE WHO WOULD CREATE INSTABILITY IN THIS REGION SHOULD NOTE THAT THE FORCES OF MODERATION HAVE OUR UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT IN DETERRING AGGRESSION.

THIS VOTE ALONE DOESN'T MEAN THAT OUR SECURITY PROBLEMS IN THAT PART OF THE WORLD HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY SOLVED. THIS PACKAGE IS BUT A PART OF OUR OVERALL REGIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY.

OUR STRATEGY SEEKS TO ENHANCE THE CAPACITY OF FRIENDLY STATES TO DEFEND THEMSELVES AND TO IMPROVE OUR OWN ABILITY TO PROJECT OUR OWN FORCES INTO THE REGION SHOULD DETERRENCE FAIL. WE'LL CONTINUE TO PURSUE EFFORTS IN BOTH AREAS.

OUR SUPPORT FOR THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL IS, OF COURSE, UNDIMINISHED BY TODAY'S VOTE. THE UNITED STATES WILL MAINTAIN ITS UNSHAKABLE COMMITMENT TO THE SECURITY AND

WELFARE OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL, RECOGNIZING THAT A STRONG ISRAEL IS ESSENTIAL TO OUR BASIC GOALS IN THAT AREA.

MUCH WORK STILL REMAINS AHEAD. I TRUST THAT ALL OF US WHO DISAGREED OPENLY AND VIGOROUSLY IN RECENT DAYS CAN NOW PUT ASIDE OUR HONEST DIFFERENCES AND WORK TOGETHER FOR COMMON GOALS: FRIENDSHIP, SECURITY, AND PEACE AT LAST IN THE CRADLE OF OUR CIVILIZATION. BECAUSE OF ACTIONS LIKE TODAY'S BY THE SENATE, THE CAUSE OF PEACE IS AGAIN ON THE MARCH IN THE MIDDLE EAST. FOR THIS, ALL OF US CAN BE GRATEFUL.

END OF TEXT.

2. POSTS MAY USE ABOVE LANGUAGE AS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE.

3. MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. HAIG

UNCLASSIFIED